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NEWS

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1879.

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Wednesday, Feb. 12th, {

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MUSIC.

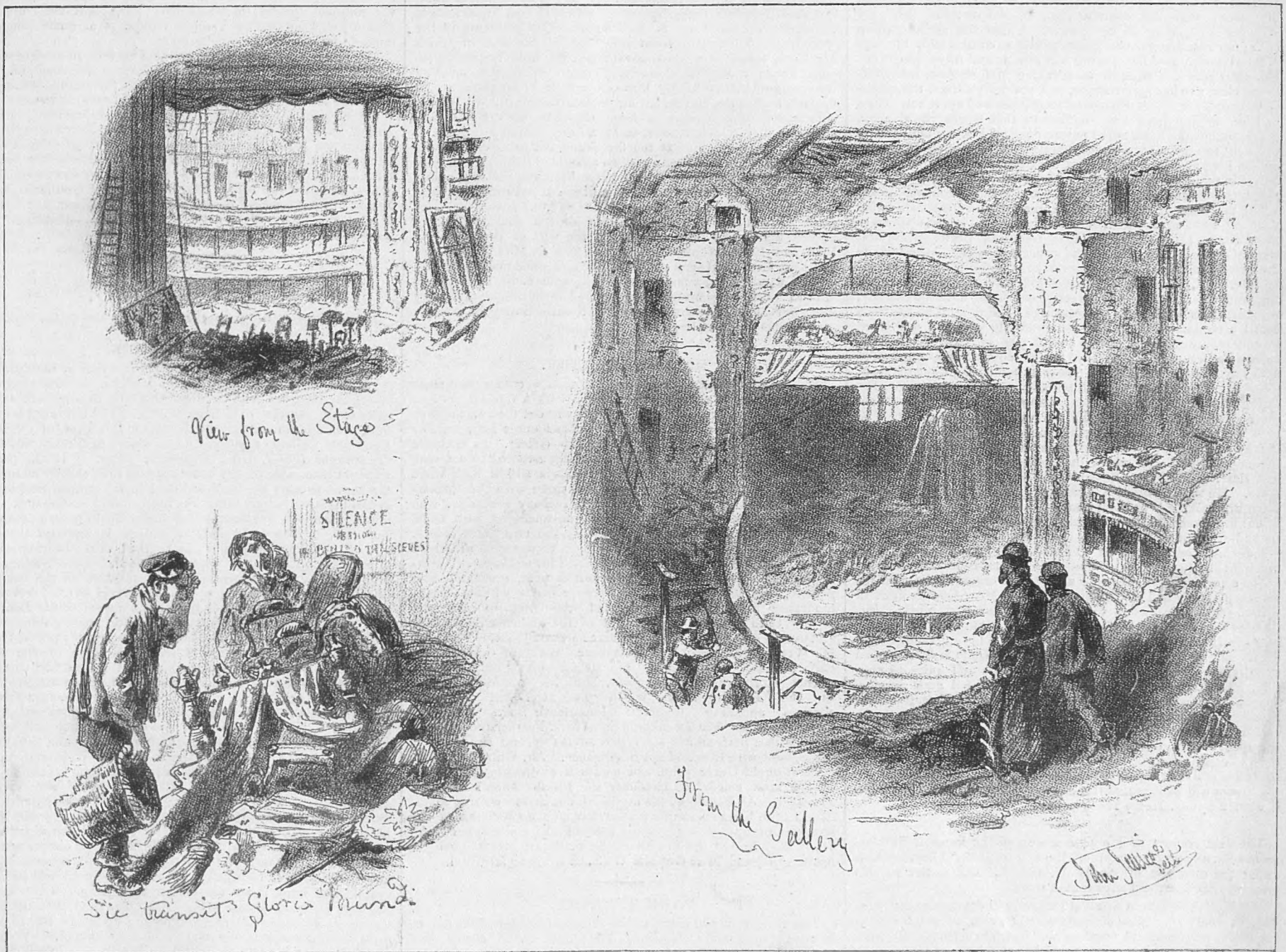
CARL ROSA OPERA COMPANY.

SINCE our last notice of English opera at Her Majesty's Theatre was written, three operas have been added to the repertory of the season—*The Bohemian Girl*, *Faust*, and *Carmen*.

The Bohemian Girl was produced yesterday week, and as usual attracted a crowded audience. The enduring popularity of Balfe's tuneful work is a testimony to the fact that the bulk of musical mankind demand vocal melody as the first requisite in opera. It is in vain to preach æsthetics to them, and to tell them that they ought to give a preference to works in which vocal melody is made secondary to orchestration. They will not listen to the voice of the "Zukunft" charmer, charm he never so artfully; they cannot be lectured into a negation of those instincts which prompt them to seek in music an agreeable relaxation rather than an intellectual exercise, and after having tasted the Dead Sea fruit of profound science, unrelieved by vocal melody, they return to their first loves with increased appetite, and find a facile enjoyment in listening to the familiar tunes which charmed their grandsires, and will charm their grandchildren. The popular melodies in *The Bohemian Girl* were welcomed last week with as much delight as if they had been novel revelations of musical genius, and they were received with enthusiasm by the entire audience. The opera was excellently performed, under the sympathetic and able direction of Signor Randegger, and the chorus

singing was specially good. The rôle of Arline was undertaken—for the first time in London—by Miss Georgina Burns. This young lady, it will be remembered, made a highly favourable impression on her first appearance last season, as Anne Page in Nicolai's comic opera, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, and since then she has had the advantage of stage practice in the provinces, where she has been received with great favour. She has a pure soprano voice, of good compass and sympathetic quality. It is also naturally flexible, and if judiciously cultured will enable her to shine in the execution of florid music. She is very young, and has, of course, much to learn before she can take rank as a finished vocalist; but the charming quality of her voice, the correctness of her intonation, and her histrionic aptitude are greatly in her favour, and those who may avail themselves of the further opportunities of hearing *The Bohemian Girl*, which are promised on Monday and Thursday next, will infallibly be gratified by her naïve impersonation of Arline. Miss Burns must, however, be kindly counselled to abstain for the present from over-ambitious attempts. She obtained the usual encore for "I dreamt that I dwelt in marble halls," but the cadenza with which she concluded the song was not in good taste, nor was it successfully executed. A final shake on the last note but one would be unobjectionable, but it was not desirable that the word "the" should be cut into two, for the sake of ascending to the upper B flat, before singing the final E flat. This is a commonplace artifice, more honoured in the breach than in the observance, and it must also be observed that the shake itself was not well executed. Miss Burns

has only to work hard, as her predecessors have done, in order to acquire the final polish of style expected from light sopranos, and we look forward to the time when she will attain a high rank among our native artists. Miss Yorke, as the Gipsy Queen, obtained the hearty applause due to her admirable vocalisation and clever acting. Mr. Maas, as Thaddeus, sang with the purest taste, and his mezzo voce singing was delightful. In the last act his voice, severely taxed on the previous night by his exertions in the title-character of *Rienzi*, showed slight symptoms of fatigue, and he wisely declined the encore of "The fair land of Poland," which was uproariously demanded. Mr. F. H. Celli again proved himself the best Count Arnheim on the modern stage; and Mr. Snazelle, as Devilshoof, made a genuine success. We must, however, protest against the introduction of the vulgar dance in the second act. Mr. Snazelle, of course, only followed the absurd example which has recently been set, but Mr. Carl Rosa should no longer permit this unwarrantable innovation. He has now the entire monopoly of *The Bohemian Girl*, so far as public performances of that opera are concerned; we are entitled to expect from him a model performance; and he must perceive that Devilshoof's dance, distracting the attention of the audience from the charming chorus which is sung while the dance proceeds, is manifestly injurious to the effect of Balfe's music—to say nothing of the fact that, had Balfe wished a dance to be introduced in this scene, he would have written appropriate dance music. There need be no fear that the withdrawal of the dance will be resented by any portion of the audience. They will be amply compensated



THE LAST OF THE QUEEN'S THEATRE.

in listening to the chorus, which is now disregarded, and Mr. Carl Rosa, who has always had the courage of his opinions, ought not to hesitate when the interests of art are concerned.

Faust was produced on Tuesday last, with Mr. Packard in the title character. No apology was offered on his behalf, yet he was evidently suffering from indisposition, and allowance must be made for vocal deficiencies which were beyond his control; but it must be observed that his acting was quite as unsatisfactory as his singing, and that he failed to realise the character of the impassioned and fascinating Faust. His movements were ungraceful, his deportment and facial expression constrained and artificial. It is to be hoped that the favourable anticipations which were awakened by his first efforts, four years back, may not be doomed to extinction. It is in his power to confirm those anticipations by casting aside conventionality, forgetting his audience, and throwing himself heart and soul into the characters he impersonates, and we shall rejoice to recognise any efforts he may make in this direction. Madame Helen Crossmond's impersonation of Marguerite showed considerable ability. Her acting was graceful, and showed intellectuality of conception. Her vocalisation was less satisfactory than her acting, and the shake and ascending scale in the "Jewel Song" were not well sung. Endowed with a good voice, she only needs further study to enable her to become a highly acceptable Marguerite. Mr. F. H. Celli repeated his popular impersonation of Mephistophiles, and Mr. Crotty as Valentine made another decided advance in public favour. He not only possesses a voice of remarkably agreeable quality—especially

in the middle register—but has been well trained, and his phrasing is excellent. He was warmly applauded, and is likely to become a popular favourite. The greatest success on this occasion was made by Miss Yorke, whose impersonation of Siebel was in all respects excellent. Her acting was natural, graceful, and sympathetic, and she sang like a true artist, phrasing well, and adhering faithfully to the text. In the English version of "Quando a te lieta" her fine voice and polished style were manifested to great advantage, and at the conclusion of the song she was deservedly rewarded by prolonged and enthusiastic applause from all parts of the house. It is not desirable to make mention of every encore, for encores are not infallible signs of merit, and are often bestowed without discrimination; but it is only just to say that the encore awarded on this occasion was a legitimate tribute to genuine art. Miss Ella Collins was an efficient Martha. The choruses were sung in finished style; the orchestral music was admirably executed, and the success of the performance was enhanced by Mr. Carl Rosa's masterly conducting.

Carmen was produced—for the first time in English—on Wednesday last, with the following cast:—Carmen (a gipsy girl), Madame Selina Dolaro; José (a sergeant of dragoons), Signor Leli; Escamillo (a bull-fighter), Mr. Walter Bolton; Remendado (Dancario's lieutenant), Mr. Charles Lyall; Dancario (chief of the smugglers), Mr. Snazelle; Zuniga and Morales (dragoon officers), Mr. Henry Pope and Mr. Cadwalader; Lillas Pastia (a tavern-keeper), Mr. Muller; Frasquita and Mercedes (gipsy girls), Miss Georgina Burns and Miss Josephine

Yorke; and Micaela (a peasant girl), Miss Julia Gaylord. The plot of the opera is so familiar that it will be needless to describe it again. The plan adopted in the preparation of the English version, and some particulars respecting the career of M. Georges Bizet, are set forth succinctly in the following short preface to the English libretto:—"It is not necessary to expatiate on the merits of the late M. Georges Bizet's *Carmen*, an opera which has obtained greater popularity than has been secured by any other lyric drama since the production of M. Charles Gounod's *Faust*. The original libretto, written by MM. Henry Meilhac and Ludovic Halévy, is founded on M. Prosper Mérimée's fascinating novel, 'Carmen.' The outline of the story, and the leading incidents, have been faithfully preserved, and the operatic version presents a succession of interesting scenes, susceptible of varied musical treatment. How well these opportunities have been turned to account by M. Georges Bizet it is needless to say. In the Italian version, produced last year, recitatives were substituted for the original spoken dialogue; in the English version—which is an adaptation rather than a literal translation—the original form of the work is maintained, and spoken dialogue is introduced where necessary. M. Georges Bizet was born at Paris, October 25th, 1838. His first operatic work, *Docteur Miracle*, was produced at the Bouffes Parisiens, in April, 1857, and in that year he gained the 'Grand Prix de Rome' at the Paris Conservatoire. His second operatic work, *Vasco di Gama*, was produced at the Théâtre Lyrique, Paris, in 1863; *Les Pêcheurs de Perles*, September 30th, 1863, at the Opéra Comique, Paris; *Djamileh*, May 21st, 1872; and *Carmen*,

his last and greatest work, March, 3rd, 1875, exactly three months before his death, which took place on June 3rd, 1875. It deprived the world of a composer who was not only a consummate master of his art, but was endowed with the creative genius, the dramatic sentiment, the power of characterisation, and the fertility of melodic invention essential in the composition of lyric works of the highest order. He died while his fame was in the bud. Since then it has blossomed splendidly, and is not likely soon to fade."

There can be little doubt that the most attractive feature in the cast was the impersonation of Carmen by Madame Selina Dolaro. She has long and deservedly been a favourite with the theatre-going public, but since her first appearance as the Spanish Princess in Hervé's *Chilperic*, when produced at the Lyceum Theatre some ten years back, she has generally appeared in opera bouffe, and although she has on some occasions made successful appearances in comedy, it could hardly have been expected that she would succeed in so exacting a rôle as that of Carmen. To the surprise and gratification of the large audience, by whom Her Majesty's Theatre was filled on Wednesday last, she made a complete and striking success. Avoiding imitations of the readings given by those admirable artists, Miss Minnie Hauk and Madame Trebelli, she struck out a path for herself, and her impersonation of Carmen was characterised by distinct originality. Her conception of the character was evidently based on a careful study of M. Mérimée's novel, and she presented a more faithful portraiture of the real Carmen than any which has thus far been seen on the English stage. Without the slightest lapse into vulgarity, without bringing into prominence the sensuality of the reckless gipsy, she gave a realistic impersonation—so vividly natural, and at the same time so fascinating, that from her first entrance, as a rustic coquette, to the final scene in which she awaited her doom with the courage born of despair, she held her audience completely in her power. Under the skilful tuition of Signor Randegger, she has acquired a considerable increase of vocal power, and her singing was artistic and often delightful. Her clear articulation, both in speaking and singing, lent additional charm to her performance, and she fairly earned the enthusiastic applause which was abundantly bestowed upon her. Even had her singing been less meritorious than it was, the vivacity, grace, pathos, and emotional power displayed in her acting were sufficient to render her a most attractive representative of Carmen, and so long as she plays the part the opera can hardly fail to increase in popularity. Miss Julia Gaylord, as Micaëa, powerfully aided the success of the performance by the excellence of her acting and singing, and her artistic rendering of the aria in the third act was awarded with hearty applause. The fine voices of Miss Yorke (Mercedes) and Miss Georgina Burns (Frasquita) were of conspicuous value in the concerted music—especially in the two quintets, which have never been better sung. Respecting Mr. Leli, who, on this occasion made his first appearance in England, after a successful career of six years' duration in Italy, we must defer a definitive expression of opinion until he has been heard a second time, as he was evidently suffering too much from nervousness to do justice to his powers. He has a tenor voice of agreeable quality—best in the upper notes—and sings with much taste. Whether he possesses sufficient power for tenor rôles of the "robust" kind remains to be ascertained. His acting showed intelligence, and although he did not always portray with sufficient intensity the varied emotions which disturb the breast of José, his performance encouraged the belief that he may hereafter prove to be a successful impersonator of the arduous character which on Wednesday he essayed for the first time. Mr. Walter Bolton was welcome in the rôle of Escamillo. He was formerly a tenor, and the higher notes of his voice are still the best at his command, the lower notes being deficient in power. He does much to atone for vocal deficiencies by skilful management of his resources, and in the popular air "Toreador, now guard thee" he won great applause. He is an excellent actor, and is in all respects a better Escamillo than his predecessor during the recent Italian Opera season. The same remark will apply to Mr. Charles Lyall and Mr. Snazelle, both of whom rendered valuable service in the concerted music. Mr. Charles Lyall's Remendado was highly diverting, and he showed how much may be made of slender materials by a genuine comedian. Mr. Pope (Zuniga) was needlessly gloomy, and he seemed to misunderstand the character of the lively and amorous captain. Mr. Cadwalader and Mr. Muller rendered good service. The choruses were capably sung, the exquisite orchestration was excellently interpreted by the fine band, and Signor Randegger conducted with great ability and taste. It should be added that the opera is played with the same *mise en scène* as in the Italian Opera season, and that the substitution of spoken dialogue for recitative adds greatly to the enjoyment of the audience.

Carmen will be repeated this evening. The English adaptation is written by Mr. Henry Hersee.

The first concert of the 67th season of the London Philharmonic Society was given at St. James's Hall on Thursday last, under the direction of Mr. W. G. Cousins. Our notice of this interesting concert will appear next week.

Mr. Kuhe's Brighton Musical Festival will commence on Tuesday, February 15. Nine concerts will be given, at which a number of our most eminent vocalists and instrumentalists will assist, and several interesting novelties will be produced—notably a new cantata, *The Lord of the Isles*, composed by Mr. Henry Gadsby.

Mr. Walter Bache's 15th annual concert will be given at St. James's Hall on Tuesday evening, February 25, under the direction of Mr. August Manns. The orchestra will comprise no less than 93 first-rate instrumentalists. The programme contains selections from Gluck, Chopin, Hans von Bülow, Liszt, and Beethoven, whose 4th concerto for pianoforte will be played by Mr. Walter Bache. It is to this gentleman that we are chiefly indebted for opportunities of hearing works of the modern German school, and his approaching concert will offer attractions to a large number of amateurs.

Mr. Lehmeyer, the well-known pianist, has organised a series of Saturday evening popular concerts, to be given at Langham Hall on the first Saturday in each month. The season commenced on Saturday last, when a well-chosen selection of music was performed by popular artists. At each of the ensuing concerts the first part of the programme will be devoted to the works of some famous composer.

The Sacred Harmonic Society's performance of Mozart's *Requiem* and Beethoven's *Mount of Olives* took place last night at Exeter Hall, and will be noticed next week.

The *Chicago Evening Journal* of Jan. 16, just received, gives a glowing account of Madame Roze-Mapleson's success as Susanna in *Le Nozze di Figaro*, and also states that Cherubino's first aria was omitted, Miss Minnie Hauk, the representative of the page, having quitted the theatre "because she could not have the dressing-room assigned by the management to Madame Roze." Peace was restored by the efforts of Colonel Mapleson, and Miss Hauk sang the page's second song, "Voi che sapete," to the delight of her audience. The Countess Almaviva was Madame Lablache, whom the *Chicago* critic compliments rather ambiguously as follows:—"Madame Lablache is a fine artist, and has a full dramatic voice, which is well used."

Miss Alice Fairman, the well-known contralto vocalist, held her annual concert in the Vestry Hall, Turnham Green, on

Thursday, Jan. 30, when she was assisted by Mesdames José Sherrington and Annie Sinclair; Messrs. Henry Guy, Fabiani, Maybrick, and Walter Clifford; Mr. Howard Reynolds (cornet), and Mr. Henry Parker (pianist). A large audience filled the hall, and the concert was in every way a success.

THE DRAMA.

GAIETY THEATRE.

MR. H. J. BYRON'S seemingly inexhaustible faculty of producing funny dialogue has enabled him once again to spin out of the bare materials of a one-act farce three acts of fairly amusing fooling. Although *Uncle* at the Gaiety Theatre would not stand the slightest test of critical analysis, it nevertheless diverted the audience sufficiently to prove that it can successfully fill its place in the programme. The plot (if so slight a pivot as the incidents upon which the comedy turns may be called a plot), deals with the domestic difficulties of Paul Beaumont, a young married man, who wishes to keep his marriage secret in order to preserve the good will of his rich, but woman-hating, Uncle Bootle, from whom he has expectations. Beaumont's wife, who is of a somewhat jealous disposition, is always suspecting him of forming foreign attachments. He introduces into the house his best friend and bosom chum, Peter Fletcher, because of whose polite attention to his wife he in his turn becomes a victim of jealousy. Just at this moment Uncle Bootle is unexpectedly announced, and there is no means of saving the situation except by making Fletcher assume to be Mrs. Beaumont's husband, which he does, and the complications arising out of this deception form the material of which the three acts are composed. Mr. Terry, as Paul Beaumont, surrounded by ludicrous perplexities, acts with that broad farcical exuberance for which he is so famous. The incidents of the comedy afford abundant room for "comic" business, of which Mr. Terry takes the utmost advantage, and from beginning to end, however the suspicion may dawn upon the mind of the spectator that he hardly knows what he is laughing at, he nevertheless laughs, and the author's object is attained. Mr. Royce, who has rapidly become a huge favourite with the Gaiety audience, plays Uncle Bootle, and is no way behind Mr. Terry in humour. His make-up as the fire-eating old misogynist is exceedingly good, and he acts with an amount of deliberate unction that proves very effective. As Peter Fletcher, the airy young bachelor, who is forced into the position of appearing to be a married man, Mr. J. H. Barnes is seen to great advantage. He plays Peter in an easy gentlemanly fashion that could not be improved upon. As Mrs. Beaumont, the wife of the perplexed Paul, and Emily Montrose, Fletcher's fiancée, Miss Emily Muir and Miss Eveleen Rayne are both good. Miss Amalia plays the part of Sarah Jane, a maid-of-all-work, with some intelligence, but too much exaggerated emphasis. The burlesque of *Young Fra Diavolo* goes as merrily as ever, so that the Gaiety programme proves amply exhilarating.

STRAND THEATRE.

Mr. Sydney Grundy, the author of *Mammon*, comes once more to the front at the Strand, but this time with a farcical comedy instead of a serious one. Oddly enough, without their having any intrinsic points in common, there are coincidences between *The Snowball* at the Strand and *Uncle* at the Gaiety. In both the complications arise from an artifice foolishly adopted by a young married man in order to hoodwink his friends, and in both there is an elderly uncle, who has a great deal to do with the furtherance of the plot, and in both there is a comedy soubrette, who takes advantage of the disturbances to advance her own ends. Beyond this all the resemblance between the two plays ceases. Mr. Grundy's comedy is notably wanting in those verbal witticisms which are at once Mr. Byron's strength and his weakness. Nevertheless the dialogue in *The Snowball* is neat, trenchant, and pointed, and the action of the piece proceeds without let or hindrance from the beginning of the first to the end of the third act, and the interest of the audience is steadily sustained. It is excellently acted throughout. Mr. W. H. Vernon as Felix Featherstone, the too-clever-by-half husband who thinks to outwit his wife, acts in a true spirit of light comedy, and his comical miseries as the foolish trick which he attempted to play assumes appalling domestic importance are extremely amusing. Miss Ada Swanborough, as Mrs. Featherstone, is provided with a part which suits her admirably, and she plays it throughout with ease and apt intelligence. Mr. Harry Cox takes the part of old Uncle John, and makes it as diverting in its way as the now celebrated character of Joskin Tubbs in *Pink Dominoes*. As Penelope, the mystified but artful waiting-maid, Miss Lottie Venne is simply perfect, her arch appreciation of the humour of the whole thing being delightful to contemplate. As Harry Prendergast, Ethel's lover, Mr. F. Wyatt acts in a gentlemanly style, and Miss Gwynne Williams is a graceful Ethel.

PARK THEATRE.

This theatre, in the hands of the Messrs. Douglass, bids fair to become successful. Andrew Halliday's *Little Em'ly* was produced here in a most thorough manner on Monday night last. The cast is a strong one. Mr. W. McIntyre is the Dan'l Peggotty, and plays the part in his well-known powerful manner. Mr. Charles Collette is highly amusing as the immortal Wilkins Micawber, acting the part in a broad, free, and effective style. Mr. J. E. Emmerson, as Steerforth, deserves praise. Mr. F. Shepherd enacts the part of Ham in a forcible manner. The Uriah Heep of Mr. C. Swan is excellent. Miss Fanny Addison plays her original part of Rosa Dartle with all her old earnestness and passion. The Martha of Miss Amy Steinberg, and the Little Em'ly of Miss Stella Brereton are both excellent, while Miss Ewell in her original part of Mrs. Gummidge is extremely good. The scenery of Mr. Richard Douglass is worthy of the highest praise, the Canterbury Cathedral scene and the wreck being most effective. We trust *Little Em'ly* will have a successful run at the Park Theatre.

MARYLEBONE.

The Grand Christmas Pantomime, entitled, *Jack the Giant-Killer; or, Harlequin Mary, Mary, Quite Contrary, and the Good Little Fairy, and Her Three Magic Gifts*,—written expressly for Messrs. Cave and West's handsome theatre by Mr. Frank Hall, is still running merrily. We gave the story of the pantomime in a previous number, and need only say that the synopsis with which we were favoured is faithfully carried out. From the rise of the curtain until the transformation scene the interest never flags. The numerous songs and dances are worked in with admirable ingenuity, not causing any break in the continuity and coherence of the familiar nursery story selected as the foundation of one of the best pantomimes we have been called upon to witness this season. The scenery is excellent, especially the transformation; in this scene, the great depth of the stage—over one hundred feet—is fully occupied, and the effect is charming in the extreme. Mr. Charles Burris, the scene painter, may congratulate himself

on having achieved a real artistic triumph. The dresses—now somewhat faded—are still sufficiently brilliant to be very effective, and the way the whole has been put upon the stage reflects great credit upon the management, represented in this case by Mr. Albert West. The interpretation is worthy of the surroundings. First on the bill is Mr. John Avondale as Goodman Gonerlog; this gentleman, evidently from the other side of the Tweed, speaks carefully and acts humorously. Then we have Miss Laura Sedgwick as Jack; although somewhat lacking in animation, Miss Sedgwick sings her songs with great finish and point, and is the fortunate possessor of a tuneful voice. Miss Jessie Garratt makes Count Palomynne a charming fellow, and does more than her share of the hard work. Miss Laura Marsden as Mary sings and dances well, looking the very reverse of "quite contrary." The Mrs. Jack of Mr. George Skinner, and the Twitters of Mr. Charles Fox may be bracketed as very comical and able interpretations; when either of these gentlemen hold the stage the house is kept in roars of laughter. A very funny couple are the Baron Battledore and the Lady Tightlace of Messrs. Townrow and Arthur Evans, while Mr. Henry Evans as King Arthur, Mr. Charles Beverley as Cormoranto the Giant, and Miss Lizzie Howe as the Princess Valentina filled the remaining principal parts in a satisfactory manner. Our advice to those who have not already seen this pantomime is to do so without delay.

The sudden closing of Drury Lane Theatre in the middle of the pantomime season is an event unprecedented in theatrical history, and affords a significant evidence of the scant sympathy or support a manager in his hour of need may expect from the very artists whose success and prosperity are in a great measure due to his encouragement. It is a most humiliating spectacle to behold the national theatre, in which over 400 people are employed, abruptly shut up because a single troupe of acrobats refuses to come to terms with the management.

Mr. F. H. Macklin writes to say that we were in error in stating that he is to play in *The Crimson Cross* at the Adelphi. Mr. Macklin does not leave the Olympic till the end of March, and his future movements are not quite decided upon at present.

Mr. Stephen Massett ("Jeems Pipes of Pipesville") has just arrived in London from a highly successful tour through New Zealand and Australia, where he has given his monologue entertainment of song, anecdote, and recitation. He is now en route for the Cape of Good Hope. He recently gave an entertainment at sea, on board the White Star Line steamer Germanic, for the benefit of the Liverpool Seaman's Orphan Asylum, and the sum of £14 14s. was collected for that admirable institution. We hope to hear Mr. Massett in London.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of THE ILLUSTRATED SPORTING AND DRAMATIC NEWS.

BEARING REINS.

SIR,—In your issue of February 1, the writer of the article on "Bearing Reins" requests me to mention the names of those veterinary surgeons who contend that the bearing-rein is injurious to the muscles of a horse's neck. The following is an extract from a letter, written by Professor Pritchard, of the Royal Veterinary College, London, and published in the first number of the *Animal World*, dated October 1, 1869:—"If the practice were not blameable on any other account than that of compelling the horses to carry the head and neck in a confined position for hours together, surely this of itself would condemn it in the minds of all who are desirous of kindly treating our noble slave. But this, of the many evils it causes, is amongst the least. . . . The palpable fact that the bearing-rein is a useless appendage, supported only by fashion, but producing painful sensations in the muscles of the head and neck, stamps its application as a most cruel act. I feel that if this were more generally understood, numbers of excellent persons who now drive their favourites with bearing-reins would discontinue to do so." In that of February, 1873, Mr. George Fleming, V.S., of the 2nd Life-Guards (then of the Royal Engineers), wrote—"In fine, to sum up the evils and disadvantages, we are not at all going beyond the plain matter of fact when we state that . . . It wears the head and neck of the horse by the constrained, unnatural position in which they are fixed. . . . The powerful muscles which pull forward the shoulders, and indirectly the fore-limbs, and which are attached to the head and neck, are by it placed in the least favourable position for exercising their function; so that the horse's action, as well as its speed and strength, are impaired from this mechanical disadvantage." The following is an extract from a letter, signed "John Adam McBride, Professor of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery," which was also published in the *Animal World*:—"Its effects upon the arteries—the pressure of the blood within the vessels, and the unnatural muscular contraction of the neck—would lead to laceration of their inner coats, resulting in enlargement of the vessels, and thus form aneurisms. The consequences of the above conditions would lead to increased pressure upon the nerves of the neck, causing excruciating pain to the poor animal." Your correspondent states that he might take the trouble to tell me, "to contemplate one muscle working a hundred years, without as much appreciable rest as is obtained by the muscles of the neck of the horse, borne up by the bearing-reign." I presume that the muscle to which he alludes is one of those which contract without being acted upon by the will of the animal, and the contraction being therefore involuntary, they do not become fatigued. In this respect they differ from those muscles which move the neck, legs, &c. But is it not true that even the muscle referred to by him is alternately contracted and lengthened, and that this is not the case with the muscles of the neck of a horse borne up by the bearing-rein?—I am, &c.,

X. Y. Z.

London, February 3, 1879.

MR. RIMMEL'S VALENTINES.—As usual, Mr. Rimmel has anticipated St. Valentine's Day by issuing an assortment of missives suitable to the occasion. Poetry and comedy alike find place in the collection, and while the one sort are genuinely humorous, the other are in a high degree tasteful and artistic. A beautifully coloured humming-bird peeping from a mass of delicate foliage is one among many special successes, and some of the artificial flowers are wonderfully real and pretty. Decidedly, whoever wants to keep up the good old custom should seek Mr. Rimmel's aid.

EAU FIGARO.—The last scientific discovery for restoring faded and grey hair to its original colour. Cleansing, Harmless, Colourless. To prove that this is "bona-fide," if a sample of hair be sent before purchase of the preparation, stating original colour, the same will be returned completely restored. Prices 5s. and 6s. per bottle. Full particulars will be sent on application to the French Hygienic Society, 40, Haymarket, S.W.—ADVT.

ANOTHER CURE OF COLD AND SORE THROAT (this week) BY DR. LOCKOCK'S PULMONIC WAFERS.—Mr. Wilkinson, Chemist, 35, Watson-street, Birkenhead, writes:—"Mr. Ravenscroft (a neighbour of mine) the other day took cold and sore throat, and was quite cured by one box at 1s 14d. per box."—[ADVT.]

ATHLETICS, CRICKET, AQUATICS, &c.

LAST week I noticed the total collapse of Gregory's Australian team *versus* fifteen of New South Wales, but at Melbourne on December 12, 13, 14 and 16 they had a glorious revenge when opposed to fifteen of Victoria. Some big scoring took place; the Victorians going in first made 172, but of this Slight put together 76; then our late visitors followed on, and although Garrett was top scorer with 53, the total was 198; in their second innings the fifteen did considerably better, as by the aid of 70 from Tennant and 40 from Alexander they scored 288; but the feature of the match was the second innings of Gregory's Eleven. With 263 runs to make to win, Murdock and C. Bannerman went to the wickets; the latter was out for nineteen, but Murdock stayed in until he had amassed 153 runs, when he was caught out. His runs were one five, seventeen fours, three threes, eleven twos, and forty-nine singles, he only giving one chance at 142. This I believe is the largest contribution ever made by one of the team since the eleven was formed. A. Bannerman backing this fine display up with 52 not out, the eleven won eventually by six wickets.

Upon my word it was quite time that we had a little open weather to allow the writers in some of the sporting journals, the opportunity of exercising what talent they do possess upon a better subject than that miserable criminal, who has proved a godsend to the liners of all class, whether the pot-house division or those in regular employ; still they may, perhaps, be excused if the public will run after such nastinesses.

No fewer than eight events were set down in the Metropolitan Athletic fixture list of last Saturday, and perhaps I am not wrong in stating that the most important of these was the long distance championship of the Thames Hare and Hounds, despite the fact that only a trio went in for the honour of holding the attending trophy. Those who journeyed extra early to Roehampton were almost unanimous in expressing their opinion that the run would be impracticable owing to the hardness of the ground, but the holder, W. Stevenson, and his two challengers, C. H. Mason and B. Smith, thought otherwise. It is not necessary for me to give the oft-told description of the course, suffice it to state that that old warrior Mason won easily by 300 yards in 46min 5secs—distance eight miles—Smith second, and the last holder beaten off. Mason has now won this race four times.

That well-known cross-country pack, the South London Harriers, which has brought out so many good athletes, decided a ten miles handicap steeplechase on the same afternoon, for which there were nine runners. F. W. Firminger, 4min start, won first prize, winning sixteen seconds from G. F. Harris, 13min, W. M. Colson (scratch) being third, and the other runners—H. Stafford 4min, J. W. Davey 5min, A. J. Fowden 5min 55sec, T. W. Simmonds 6min 10secs, E. Lewis 8min 30sec, and A. Turner 12min 30sec—were not placed by the judge. The winner's time, taken by J. Gibb, the celebrated distance amateur runner, was 1 hour 11min 43sec.

Mr. R. Harry Nunn, a name known all over the athletic world, has consented to act as treasurer for the Waddell Testimonial on condition that it be for a joint one to the two brothers. He will receive subscriptions at 2, Princes-street, E.C.

St. George's Hall, Langham-place, was on Saturday evening the scene of the sixteenth annual assault of arms of the London Rifle Brigade. I hear that there was a numerous and fashionable company, including the Lord Mayor and party, but as the executive did not take the trouble to forward me either a ticket or notice that it was coming off, I shall adhere to my resolution of not making any further comment upon the proceedings.

At a captains' meeting, held last Saturday at Oxford, it was unanimously decided to accept the challenge from Cambridge formally, and at the same time and place the "torpids" were fixed for March 5. Mr. Grenfell drew attention to the correspondence between himself and Harvard University Boat Club, remarking that its publication gave all required explanation, or words to that effect.

Now that the Weston ramp is fairly exploded, I do not think it deserves any attention from me in a sporting light, but really it seems preposterous that such doubtful efforts should be encouraged. Starting with an avowed intention, articles drawn up, &c., &c., he had the good wishes of many, but he has entirely failed to carry out his engagement in almost any single particular. I wonder whether if I went for a tramp round the provinces I should be permitted to continually cause obstructions and be supported by the police authorities? I rather fancy not, and in some country places I might find myself more likely in the stocks, where that old-fashioned piece of woodwork is not entirely done away with.

Several persons have written me wishing to know how bets stand. In reply, I am of opinion that as Weston has not acted up to the articles of agreement, he has thus early lost for his partizans their money, and those who laid against the feat win.

Bicycling is quite at a standstill just now, but on Saturday next a good performance may be anticipated, as J. Keen and Walter Phillips decide their 25 miles race for 50 sovs at the Aylestone Cricket Ground, Leicester. I fancy the champion will once more win.

From information received, as the criminal investigators say, I find that Higgins and Elliott are both taking considerable care of themselves for their match for the championship, despite the fact that they neither have been able to do as much river practice as could be wished. Higgins has gone North, and both parties are very sanguine; however, although I know I am opposing the opinion of some of our best judges, I fancy the North countryman will prove the victor, but with not very much to spare.

A pair-oared match at Barrow-in-Furness on Tuesday produced a deal of excitement amongst the friends of the two crews, who were respectively J. H. Scott of the Cavendish Hotel and R. Farver, and W. Scott of the Star Hotel and Josiah Twiss of the Duke of Edinburgh, the distance being 1½ mile from Turvey's House to Chapel Bed Black Buoy, on Walney channel. The first-named pair were favourites, but lost by three lengths, the victors being seated in the Julia and the losers in the Juliet, two inriggers 20ft long, built by J. Hastings.

Owing to going to press on the same day, I am unable to give the result (writing as I do on Wednesday night) of the Strong and Emmett match on Thursday for 200 sovs. I hope there will be a straight away contest this time, and my opinion is in favour of Emmett's chance.

At both Universities the river is now all alive with craft, the eights being in daily work under the especial surveillance of the respective presidents and occasionally of an old blue or two, this being a great boon to the local liners, who thus are enabled to make out their daily reports; the fact, however, that two crews only doing preliminary practice turn out day after day and go certain distances with various changes is of no interest to my readers.

Trinity Hall, Cambridge, scratch fours were rowed on Tuesday, when no fewer than ten crews competed, victory falling to the following: J. Orrell (bow), C. K. Norman, C. S. Brandon, H. T. Coles (stroke), F. S. Robb (cox.).

Torpid practice is going on in excess at Oxford, no fewer than twenty-six crews being out, two from Brasenose, two from Christ's Church, three from Keble, two from Trinity, and one each from Pembroke, Queen's, Magdalen, Hertford, Oriel, Worcester,

Exeter, University, St. John's, Jesus, Merton, Balliol, Wadham, St. Catherine's, Corpus, Lincoln and New College.

Wrightson Forster, of Gateshead, is anxious to try conclusions with William Spencer of Chelsea, in best and best boats over the championship course on either the Thames or Tyne, for a hundred a side, so the Londoner will not be hard up for engagements if he cares for them.

Ross, I hear, will, as was reported a day or two back, leave London this week. He is, I am informed, making considerable improvement, and he should about obtain first blood in his series of contemplated contests.

Upwards of sixty of the members and friends of the North London Club sat down to their annual dinner on Saturday evening last at the White Horse, London-wall, Mr. Dodson being in the chair. I am glad to state that the minutes of the hon. sec., Mr. J. Whittle, showed that the society is in as flourishing a position as it has ever been.

The last two matches in the third round of the Association Challenge Cup were decided at Kennington Oval on Saturday evening last. Cambridge University had to succumb to the Clapham Rovers, being beaten by one goal to love, and Oxford University beat Barnes by two goals to one.

All the engagements in the fourth round must be got through on or before February 28, and it is also imperative that they take place at Kennington Oval. Those left in as drawn are, Clapham Rovers v. Swifts, Old Etonians v. Darwen, Oxford University v. Notts Forest.

According to all accounts, Cook is showing rare billiards in our eastern empire. On New Year's eve he played Stanley, giving him 250 in 1,000, and he beat him by 589, making such fine runs as 294, 248, 203, and 107, and running up his thousand in an hour and a quarter. Stanley has not been well. I hear it rumoured that during his Australian trip, Cook will have for a partner Timbrell of Liverpool, vice the young spot hazard player.

EXON.

TURFIANA.

THE "translation" of Blue Mantle from his former abiding place in Yorkshire to Middle Park reminds us that this gay little gentleman is almost the last living son of the "gallant Knight of the Silver Hair," with whom the fortunes of the Kentish stud farm were in olden days so intimately associated. The Kingston mares have done right good service at the stud—Silver Hair, Queen Bertha, and Maid of the Glen to wit—besides others of lesser note, but as yet his sons have been dismal failures, and death or exile has been the lot of "Ely, the beautiful," King John, and Caractacus, all of which may be said to have had golden opportunities in their day. But the results have been contemptible indeed, and perhaps lack of size told against their progeny, as it has done in other cases, and now we are left with but one direct descendant of note hailing from the gay and dapper tribe of Venisons. Blue Mantle we remember very well as a real clipper in the year which showed the existence of such two-year-old giants in the land as Lord Clifden, Saccharometer, Carnival, Macaroni, and Co., and a wonderful "getter up stairs" was Captain Douglas Lane's fiery little horse, until his heart failed him, and nothing could induce him to show over the shadow of his real form. In these days of so many "claimants" for stud practice it is hard to give a stallion the chance he deserves; but Blue Mantle should find more than one suitable consort where he now sojourns, and it has always been Mr. Blenkiron's policy to give really good mares to a sire he deems good enough to keep his cracks company at Eltham. It will be seen that Victorious and Vespasian are both advertised to stand at their old quarters, and the return of winners by the former horse is quite satisfactory enough to bring him plenty of custom, seeing that the cry is now for Newminster blood, and considering that Adventurer and Hermit have long since been announced as full.

It is significant of the present "depression" in breeding circles that nearly a moiety of the sires advertised at a one hundred guinea fee are still open to receive more names upon their subscription lists. Besides the two sons of Newminster above-named, it is to be presumed that Blair Athol, Wild Oats, Speculum, Doncaster, and Rosicrucian are full; but Scottish Chief, Galopin, Blue Gown, Sterling, Springfield, and Petrach are still open to offers, though in the case of the first-named it is difficult to conjecture why breeders should hold aloof, seeing that his produce invariably fetch good prices in the sale ring, and bearing in remembrance that his two year olds carried all before them in 1877. It seems to be generally admitted that Galopin has been over-priced, and Sterling's fee has been almost a prohibitory one, if we may judge from the foal list, which shows that very few besides his owners have patronised the champion miler of his day. Blue Gown, though his stock have run fairly well abroad, may be reckoned as a *debutante* in this country, like Springfield and Petrach; and it is curious to observe how, in the cases of recent additions to the sire list, a rush is frequently made upon them in their first season, and then breeders seem to take alarm, and to hold their hands until they can see something of the first batch of foals—frequently, by the way, a very indifferent criterion of the real merits of their progenitor.

Foals will now be coming a bit faster, but the weather is terribly against these little strangers at present, and in many places it has been found next to impossible to enlarge the in-foal mares for a draught of fresh air and an hour's exercise each day; and happy are they who have yards or covered rides in which to turn the occupants of their boxes, which can thus be rendered sweet and wholesome. Notwithstanding the cold weather, most of our correspondents report that things are looking well, and that so little sickness never was known among blood stock.

None but millionaires can now afford to embark in breeding speculations with any hope of "making it pay," but Mr. Naylor need be burdened with none of these deterrent considerations, and in time Kelmarsch may rival Hooton in the extent of its resources, though its owner may have no intention of producing more than is required to keep his stable going. It will be like old times to see Griffiths *père* installed in office as head of affairs; for while at Blankney the veteran fully sustained his reputation as an able administrator of that model establishment. It was only natural that Mr. Naylor should be desirous of maintaining some of the old Hooton traditions, and in Forerunner he has selected a successor to the "Emperor of Stallions," with a slice of the old blood in his pedigree, fortified by an infusion of the old Belsay strain, which will make it none the less valuable in the eyes of breeders. We have reason to know that Forerunner was a better horse than even his public running indicated, and though he must be put down (in a strictly "descriptive" sense) as of doubtful parentage, Mr. Cookson never had the slightest doubt of his being a son of The Palmer, albeit from his having white legs some superficial critics at once set him down as being by The Earl. Being a fine, lengthy horse, Forerunner will experience no difficulty in finding suitable mates, and doubtless at no very distant period his owner will be able to form a stud specially adapted to his shape and blood.

It is not often we find the sire as well as grandsire of Derby winners, with one of his sons at the head of "winning stallions" for 1878, standing at such a modest fee as old Vedette, whom

Dollamore has got as bright as a star and as fresh as a kitten, while we have reason to believe that he did well with all his mares last year. His yearlings, too, did him great credit, and he is easily "come-at-able," as we may say, from all quarters of the habitable globe.

Resuming our Derby notes, we now arrive at the name of Lancastrian, who has found many friends among the outside public by his very creditable performances at Newmarket last "back end," though it is perhaps only fair to add that this favouritism is in no small degree due to the colt's close relationship to Sef-ton, as well as to the fact of Mr. Crawford having been hailed the winner of last year's Derby. It seems always to be imagined that such lucky people must stand a great chance of "doing the trick" once more, though the idea has over and over again proved delusion; but we think in the case of Lancastrian the believers in omens and in repetitions of Turf history have something more solid on which to build their hopes than is generally the case. Lancastrian doubtless exhibited great promise, and it must be borne in mind that none of the Toxophilites have been famous for early or precocious development, and many are of the improving sort. Lancastrian is big enough and good-looking enough for anything, but he will require to make still more remarkable progress before he can claim to rank with such horses as Peter and Victor Chief. On the other hand, it may justly be urged that he has done far more than Sef-ton accomplished at the same age, and this undoubted recommendation must not be lost sight of. As yet many of the Toxophilites have proved themselves curs and rogues, taking after their sire in this respect, but it would be unfair to saddle Lancastrian with these failings in anticipation, and we must give him the benefit of the doubt in this respect. All we can say of him at present is that we would rather rank ourselves among his friends than his enemies, though we must not be understood to counsel his substantial support, when so much depends upon the way he has gone on during the recess, and upon how far his temper is to be trusted.

BY-THE-BYE,

It was February, 1838, that the present flourishing Prince of Wales's Theatre, then known as the Queen's Theatre, so named out of compliment to Queen Adelaide, had come to the apparent close of a long and consistently unfortunate career. Consequently, Mr. George Robins, the famous auctioneer, received instructions for the sale thereof. He issued a very tempting prospectus, inviting purchasers to invest their money, and put forth glowing promises of the golden harvest awaiting the spirited and enterprising capitalist who would have the good fortune of possessing it. Upon this, soon after appeared the following waggish, amusing, and satirical parody:—

IMPORTANT TO LUNATICS!!!

Mr. George Robins has the honour to announce that the proprietors, having resolved to get out of the thing upon any terms, have instructed him to look out for a victim for

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE.

As a medium (for getting rid of surplus cash) it may be pronounced the MOST DESIRABLE CONCERN IN THE MARKET. A spirited capitalist will have an early opportunity of displaying his liberality by redeeming

THE WHOLE OF THE SCENERY,

which has been distrained upon for rent; and he may proceed, if he choose, still further in the good work by paying (out of his own pocket) the heavy arrears of salary due to

A TALENTED COMPANY!!!

This theatre has a licence, which enables it (though generally shut nine months out of the twelve for want of a tenant) to continue

OPEN ALL THE YEAR ROUND.

And though in its best days no one ever netted a penny by it, it is not impossible, when miracles become things of daily occurrence, that

FORTY POUNDS A WEEK

May be got out of it.

Notwithstanding the frequent changes of tenancy, it is an absolute fact that no Lessee ever left the theatre

OF HIS OWN ACCORD,

But he was generally dragged away between two bailiffs. Mr. George Robins begs to add that there will be NO RESERVE on occasion, in fact reserve would be quite out of place, as it will require the impudence he can boast to say one word in favour of the property.

I don't think anyone can read the above without thinking the Queen's Theatre in Long-acre, now in process of demolishing and recalling the hackneyed saying, "History repeats itself."

At the fancy dress ball, lately given in Guernsey, one of ladies appeared as "Ruccadrummondumdrummond." What what on earth did she represent?

Snug in my little book-lined den, "the world forgot by the world forgot," I glance through my *Whitehall Review* and rejoice proudly to know that I am not a journalist in Society (spell society with a big S please, as they always do in the *Whitehall*), for therein I read how in a Society club, once extensively patronised by the 9th Lancers; it was thought fun to put one the waiters into the ice-safe and sit on the lid, chase the servants all over the clubhouse "like hares;" witness the brother of a noble earl engaging in a hand-to-hand another member in the entrance-hall, while a hansom officiated as umpire, and play cards for heavy stakes too drunk to hold the cards. Nowadays, on the Society authority, the members appear to be chiefly less famous for "snowy shirt-fronts, heavy watch big studs, for wearing in their button-holes "white modest violets;" for carrying "crutch-handled sticks," nibbling toothpicks." Accomplishments and dist justify the remark of the journalist of Society that fancy themselves" and form "a great institution Club." Nor is this all I have in these pages security palatable. For, according to the sa within the awe-inspiring gates of Society (remember), "Fifty years ago, if a man were even expected of cheating at cards"—(even mere cheating)—"would have been carefully watched, and when detected (before?)—"expelled from Society for ever"—(Oh! dread fate!)—whereas "now people carefully avoid such scandals; would rather be robbed of their money than be forced to pay the thief." We hope the journalists in society are more to be the companions of men who rob and cheat than those would be of whom the *Whitehall* speaks scornfully same column as "journalists of the Grub-street School," "condemnation" of such doings "pronounced outside th does not disturb the malefactor who is comfortably en within the precincts of Society." But this is not all, for, *Whitehall*, "There are things not only suspected, but known, of men in Society, which, although infinitely extreme, do not interfere with their social success." that, give me Grub-street. If Society really is wh in Society describe, it is a pity Society does not care journalists altogether, whether they be of "th School" or dandy dabblers in letters on society jou

But space is scarce this week, and I must cor gratulate in silence A. H. T

THE decision of the stewards of the Edinburgh on the objection to Teba for the Golfers' Cup Grand National Hunt Committee, and by the



SCENE FROM THE BURLESQUE OF "CARMEN" AT THE FOLLY THEATRE.

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posing the toast of the evening, he said the Australian cricketers, during their campaign in the old country, by their good play and gentle bearing had won golden opinions for themselves, and reflected no little lustre upon the younger Britain which is so rapidly growing into maturity, adding, "I do not mind now confessing that when the team left I rather dreaded that they might fall short in one or other of two particulars. I was afraid either that our provincial cricketers might not maintain their local reputation when brought into competition with the highest skill which is always forthcoming at the headquarters of our national game; or else that if they fairly held their own, they might in the exuberance of their delight be tempted to indulge in exultation to an extent which might be considered inconsistent with good taste, and so detract from the merit of their success. Fortunately both these fears have been entirely dispelled. The triumphs of the team in the cricket-field have surpassed our most sanguine expectations, whilst the excellence of their play has been enhanced by a gentleness and unobtrusiveness of demeanour which has charmed all with whom they have been brought in contact. These latter qualities seem to have taken people at home a little by surprise. Australian 'blowing' had become a standing joke with travellers and novelists; and I venture to think, therefore, that it is not amongst the least important of the services which the team have rendered to us that they have succeeded in modifying a good many exaggerated impressions in this respect. Our cricketers have shown that they really have been able to teach their grandmothers a thing or two—(laughter)—and in giving the lesson they have evinced such a happy combination of cheerfulness and courtesy, of manliness and modesty, that the old people, instead of feeling sore at such successful rivalry in a field in which they have heretofore reigned supreme, have been intensely proud of the prowess of their descendants. The elder community in short has accepted the success of the younger in the same spirit as Anthony did, when in the hour of defeat he consoled himself with the reflection—'A Roman myself, I am at length by a Roman overcome.'"

LOVE'S VICTORY.

A DRAMATIC STORY

Adapted expressly for this paper.

By HOWARD PAUL.

CHAPTER IX.—(Continued.)

Zita had become crimson, her bosom heaved, and resentment and shame appeared on her face.

"A paper which was left at our house one afternoon speedily enlightened us. It was a summons. I was ordered to appear before a magistrate. It was a thunderbolt. Mad with anger, Mr. Peabody swore I should not attend; that he would challenge and kill everyone who dared to repeat this infamous slander. Vainly did Mrs. Thorpe and myself beseech him, on our knees, not to leave the house until he had grown cooler. He pushed us aside, and rushed out. After suffering tortures of anxiety, at last, near midnight, he returned, pale and exhausted. He had found no one willing even to listen to him, everybody telling him that such infamous reports were too absurd to be believed."

She nearly broke down, sobs intercepting her words, but she mastered her emotion, and continued,—

"The next day I went to the court, and was interrogated by the judge. He received me as if I had been a criminal. But when I exhibited the letters which you have read his manner changed. Ah! I shall be eternally grateful to him for the words he said when I left his presence: 'Poor young lady! Justice respects your innocence. May the world do the same!'

She fixed her eyes, trembling with fear and hope, upon Paul, and added in a voice of supplication and touching humility, "The world has been more cruel than the law; but you, Monsieur, will you be more cruel than the judge?"

Paul was sadly embarrassed what to answer. He felt as if all his senses were in utter confusion.

"Oh, heaven!" exclaimed Miss Denman, with grieved surprise, "he still doubts me! Speak, Monsieur; only speak! Do you doubt the authenticity of these letters? Ah, if you do, take them; I do not hesitate to confide them to your honour. Show them to the other clerks who were in the same office as Masson for twenty years; they will tell you that it is his own handwriting. Go to the judge who examined me!"

She waited, but not a word came. Paul had sunk exhausted into a chair; leaning his brow upon his hand he strove to think, to reason. Then Miss Denman rose, came gently up to him, and, taking his hand, said softly,—

"I beseech you!"

But, as if electrified by the touch of this soft, warm hand, Paul rose so hastily that he upset the chair, and cried out,—

"Périer!"

It was as if he had struck her in the face. She started back, livid, and darted at him a look of burning hatred,—

"This is the first time in my life," she said, trembling with rage, "that I condescended to justify myself against such infamous charges, and you abuse my patience by heaping insults upon me. But a look upon you as Gabrielle's husband, and, since I have commenced, I mean to finish."

Paul tried to say a word of apology, but she interrupted—

"Yes, one night a young man, Georges de Périer, crowning a profligate life by a vile death, did come and kill himself under my window. He committed suicide because he had lost his fortune at Monaco, and he chose my window to satisfy a petty vengeance. Thinking me an heiress, whose fortune would enable him to continue his extravagant life, he had courted me, and been refused by Mr. Peabody. Finally, at the time when the catastrophe occurred, I was at Tours, sixty miles hence." And as Paul looked at her bewildered, she added:—"Perhaps you will ask me for proofs. I have none. But there is one man who can give them you, and that man is M. de Périer's brother. He has continued to be our friend. He was here to-night, he lives in Paris, and Mr. Peabody can give you his address."

She looked at De Najac with a glance of mingled pity and contempt, and then added, in her proudest tone,—

"And now, sir, since I have deigned to stand here like a criminal, do you sit in judgment on me. Question me, and I will answer. What else are you going to charge me with?"

A judge should be calm, and Paul was but too conscious of his excitement. He therefore simply said,—

"I believe you, Miss Denman."

Zita's beautiful eyes lighted up with joy, and in a softened voice she said,—

"Oh, thank you, Monsieur! Now I am sure you will help me to gain Mdlle. Gabrielle's friendship."

Why did she mention that name? It broke the charm. Paul saw his weakness and was ashamed. "Permit me not to reply to that to-night. I should like to consider," he said with an air of resolution.

"What do you mean? Have I or have I not removed your doubts, your insulting suspicions?" she asked with astonishment. Stung to the quick, De Najac forgot the discretion which he had intended to observe, and said,—

"I must confess there is one thing I cannot understand, and

that is how you can marry Count Saint-Roch. You are young, you are rich, you say. The Count is sixty-six years old."

She, who had been so daring, now drooped her head.

"You are cruel!" she whispered; "the secret which you wish to penetrate is one which a girl hardly dares to confide to her mother."

"Indeed," said he ironically, thinking he had caught her at last. But the proud girl did not waver, she replied sadly,—

"You will have it; be it so. I will lay aside the veil of reserve which conceals the mysteries of a young girl's heart. I do not love Count Saint-Roch. I have never allowed him to hope for real love, but still I shall be most happy to become his wife. I cannot explain, I hardly understand my own feelings. A sympathy unites us. I can no longer endure my present life, persecuted by slander; in Count Saint-Roch's home I hope to find peace, and a position which commands respect."

Paul thought he had caught her, but it was she who crushed him with her frankness. He could make no reasonable objection; fifty marriages out of a hundred are made upon less high ground. Zita spoke, with all her former haughtiness.

"During the last few years I have had twenty offers—three or four of them acceptable to a duchess. I have refused all. Why? I cherish an ideal! Admired and courted, thanks to my beauty, as the world calls it, in vain have I sought for the man of my dreams. For the noble heart, the spark of genius, the inflexible will, capable of attempting what others dare not. To repay the love of such a man I would have found treasures in my heart which now lie useless, like the wealth buried at the bottom of the sea." One by one, Paul's suspicions vanished. But Miss Denman paused as if ashamed of her vehemence, and continued slowly and sadly,—

"Now, monsieur, you know me better than any other person in the world, and yet you are a stranger to me, and are the first man who has ever dared to speak harshly to me. Must I repent my frankness? No! surely you will not be so cruel. To save a name you revere you have risked your love and your fortune. Yes, Mdlle. Saint-Roch has made no ordinary choice."

"Yes," she presently resumed, "my fate is sealed. Once more I implore you to induce Mdlle. Gabrielle to receive me as an elder sister. Ah! if I were the woman you think me, what should I care for her enmity? The Count will not be turned aside. And yet, I beg! I—who am accustomed to command. What more do you want? To see me at your feet? I am there," and slowly sinking on her knees, she pressed his hand upon her burning brow.

"He rejects me!" she sighed. "He rejects me!"

Paul trembled from head to foot, and bending over Miss Denman, raised her from the ground, and held her, half lifeless, with her head resting on his shoulder.

"Miss Denman!" he cried in a voice tremulous with agitation. Her hair had become loosened, and fell in masses on his arm; their breaths mingled, and Paul felt her sobs upon his heart. Mad with excitement, forgetting everything, he pressed his lips upon the lips of this enchantress.

"Paul! unhappy man!" she cried, drawing back instantly, as if electrified. Then bursting into passionate sobs, she cried,—

"Go! Go! I ask for nothing now!"

And he replied with terrible vehemence,—

"Your will shall be done, Zita. I am yours. You may count upon me."

He rushed away like a madman.

(To be continued. Commenced in No. 258, Jan. 4, 1879.)

THE AMATEURS.

Amateurs are requested to send early notice of any performance they desire announced or reviewed—in the latter case enclosing a programme and two tickets. Advertisements must be forwarded to the Publisher by first post on Thursday mornings to insure insertion in the current week's issue.

LANGHAM HALL.—Mr. Maurice Edwards gave a dramatic recital at this hall on the 28th of January, and merited the applause that greeted his efforts. Amongst selections both humorous and pathetic, he gave us Macaulay's "Virginia," Tennyson's "The Northern Farmer" (excellently rendered), Edgar Allan Poe's "The Bells," Hood's "Bridge of Sighs," the churchyard scene from *Hamlet*, and "Shamus O'Brien," an Irish poem.

THE BLACKHEATH DRAMATIC CLUB gave their seventeenth entertainment at the New Cross Hall, in aid of the funds of the Royal Kent Dispensary and the Seamen's Hospital on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday last, and on each occasion drew crowded and fashionable audiences. The performance commenced with *The Bengal Tiger*, which, although rather a difficult farce, went without a hitch. Mr. Chas. West, well made up as the irascible old Anglo-Indian, played well, and resisted the temptation to exaggerate, a fault common with amateurs attempting the part. Mr. Oliver was forcible as Edward Henderson, Mr. Self Leonard made the most of David, and Mr. Latter was a good-looking young lover. Miss Maggie Brennan as Miss Yellowleaf was admirable, and in the scene in which she is induced to learn the art of smoking fairly convulsed the audience. She was well supported by Miss Fanny Pitt as Charlotte. The *pièce de résistance*, however, was Mr. Gilbert's comedy of *Randall's Thumb*, in which the part of Randall was entrusted to Mr. Oliver, and on the amateur stage it could scarcely have been in better hands. The cool, scheming villainy of the adventurer was admirably portrayed, and the "make-up" was perfect. Equally good in a different way was the Scantlebury of Mr. Taylor, who entered thoroughly into the humour of the part, and played, particularly in the drunken scene, in a manner which was far above the average of amateur acting. Mr. Clarke, as Joe Bangles, looked the part thoroughly and played naturally, while Mr. P. A. Davies was easy and gentlemanly as Flamboy. We wish we could say as much for the Buckthorp of Mr. Gordon; gentlemanly he may be, but easy he certainly was not. His elocution, too, was bad, particularly in the love scenes. If the truth must be told—and we always tell amateurs the truth about themselves—this was the only drawback to an otherwise excellent cast. With regard to the ladies, Miss Maggie Brennan, as Miss Spinn (her original character), left nothing to be desired, throwing as she did an amount of quiet fun into the part which was delicious. Miss Fanny Pitt as Mrs. Flamboy looked charming, and acted as well as she looked, while Miss Blanche Henri as Edith Temple and Miss Charlotte Saunders as Mrs. Scantlebury were all that could be wished, and the Blackheath Club may consider themselves fortunate in having been able to secure the services of four such accomplished lady artists. The comedies were produced under the superintendence of Mr. Coe, who may be well satisfied with the result of his efforts, for a better amateur performance, as a whole, we have never seen, and we were informed that about £100 would be handed over to the excellent institutions in aid of which the performance was given. The Lewisham Orchestral Society, under the direction of Mr. Warwick Jordan, performed a selection of music during the evening.

EASTBOURNE AMATEUR DRAMATIC CLUB.—This club gave a performance on Wednesday week at the Pavilion, Devonshire Park, before a numerous and fashionable audience. The pieces placed upon the boards were the drama *Don Cesar de Bazar* and

Done on Both Sides. As Don Cesar Mr. A. R. Wilcockson was excellent, playing his part in a manner which elicited frequent applause from the audience. He showed a knowledge of stage business which we seldom see in an amateur, his scene with the King in the third act being very good. Mr. E. Cooper as Don Jose portrayed the crafty minister capitally, while Mr. T. Curtis as the King was very fair, but would have been more effective if he had spoken louder, as he was almost inaudible at the back of the hall. Mr. F. Emary (Marquis de Rotondo) was very successful, and the same may be said of Mr. J. Hicks (Lazarillo). The minor parts were effectively filled by Messrs. W. Hicks, A. Tomkinson, H. Procter, and A. Lye. Maritana the gipsy was played very creditably by "an amateur lady," who, with more practice and attention to stage business, will become a very good actress. The Marchioness de Rotondo was effectively played by Miss M. Cutts. In the farce the honours were carried off by Mr. Dearle (Phibbs) and Mr. Owthwaite (Whiffles) who both played capitally, keeping the audience in a roar of laughter. Mr. Stevens (Brown John) would have been more effective if he had not required the services of the prompter so often. Mrs. Whiffles (a lady amateur) and Lydia (Miss Cutts) were both played well. The stage management was in the hands of Mr. A. R. Wilcockson, and an excellent band, under the leadership of Mr. A. Cooper, performed a good selection of music during the evening in a creditable manner.

SIR MOSES MONTEFIORE LITERARY AND ART SOCIETY.—The theatre of the spacious premises recently acquired by this society was crowded last Sunday evening by an audience which included many of the leading families of the Jewish community. *Our Bitterest Foe*, and the popular comic opera of *Les Cloches de Corneville*, were the pieces selected for representation on this occasion. The former little drama owed much of the favour with which it was received to the graceful and intelligent acting of Miss Florence Abrahams as Blanche d'Evran. But the great attraction of the evening was *Les Cloches de Corneville*, produced under the direction of a former president of the society, Mr. Israel Abrahams, of Russell-square. Mr. de St. Pierre, as the Marquis de Corneville, and Mr. Darrell, as Grenicheaux, may be highly commended for their singing especially; but perhaps the most successful personation of all was that of the miser Gaspard, played by Mr. Fred Small. Miss M. Loewenstark and Miss Kate Moses must also be mentioned in terms of praise, and the warm applause which greeted Miss Violet Abrahams as Manette was fairly earned by her graceful and clever acting. The musical arrangements were under the able superintendence of Mr. Edmund Abrahams.

GIBRALTAR, 18th January.—On Tuesday evening last a series of performances by the Royal Engineer Coloured Opera Troupe was brought to a close by a brilliant performance under the patronage of His Excellency the Governor, Lord Napier of Magdala. The dingy old Theatre Royal, the scene of many an amateur display by gallant players, was crowded by civilians and military in happy blending, and all went merry as a marriage bell. The programme contained some excellent songs and ballads and a vocal march, but the piece of the evening was the historical extravaganza *The Last King of Granada*, a humorous play written by Colonel Colomb, R.A., and first played in this very theatre. Where all the performers are so good it is unnecessary to particularise, but we must not fail to mention the great comic talent and resource displayed throughout by the manager, Mr. W. F. Cottrell (Garrison Quartermaster), both as manager and corner man, and in his solos, "The victim of love" and "Oh, I'd like to be a bird."

BIJOU THEATRE, NOTTING HILL.—On Monday evening, January 27, an audience which certainly filled, if it did not even overflow, the above little theatre assembled to witness an amateur performance. The pieces represented were—*Out off with a Shilling*, *The Loan of a Lover*, and *Only a Halfpenny*. The curtain rose with a punctuality too rare in amateur performances, and the opening piece went with commendable smoothness, if without any extraordinary brilliancy. Mr. Talbot Searle as Sam Gaythorne, Mr. Wollan as Colonel Berners, and Mrs. Gelli-brand as Kitty Gaythorne played cleverly. Mrs. De la Rue sang two songs in the interval between the first and second pieces with much taste and feeling. *The Loan of a Lover* was the next, the cast being as follows:—Captain Amersfort, Mr. Mosley Watts; Peter Spyke, Mr. A. Crocker; Swyzell, Mr. Jordan; Delve, Mr. Williams; Gertrude, Mrs. Mosley Watts; Ernestine, Miss Hester. Of the Amersfort of the evening we would only remark that he shared the too common failing amongst both amateurs and professionals of introducing some slight incongruities in the matter of uniform. Setting aside the fact that the rest of the piece being dressed in the fashion of the latter part of the last century made a modern British uniform somewhat of an anachronism, we might point out that an officer walking about in undress uniform would scarcely feel it incumbent on him to wear his pouch and belt, which are usually considered emblems of duty, but though the disturbed state of his affections might perhaps account for this peculiarity, it would hardly induce him to don a pair of bright yellow gloves. These slight eccentricities apart, Mr. Watt's part was carefully and quietly, if not brilliantly, played. Mr. Crocker was a satisfactory representative of the worthy but thick-headed young farmer Peter Spyke, and Messrs. Jordan and Williams in the small parts of Swyzell and Delve did much towards the success of the piece. The Gertrude of Mrs. Mosley Watts was undoubtedly the feature of the evening's performance, and was marked by a degree of talent seldom encountered. We have only one word of advice for her, which is not to be quite so restless on the stage; the motions may be full of grace, but a certain amount of repose is desirable. With this exception, which further experience will doubtless remove, we can congratulate Mrs. Watts most heartily on a legitimate success. Miss Hester played the somewhat thankless part of Ernestine quietly and gracefully, and the curtain fell amidst well deserved applause, and a shower of bouquets. *Only a Halfpenny* completed the programme.

A well-known artist's model has appeared on the stage of the King's Cross Theatre as Hamlet under the name of De Rocheford, on which occasion a large number of well known artists were present both as actors and as spectators. Critics were not invited.

On Thursday week, in the banquetting hall attached to the residence of Sir William Armstrong, Jesmond Dene, Newcastle-on-Tyne, the very popular Gilbert-Sullivan comic opera, *H.M.S. Pinafore*, was played by amateur ladies and gentlemen, and proved a brilliant success. This we believe is the first time the opera has been attempted by private theatricals, and one and all must certainly be complimented on the manner in which they played their respective parts. The chorus was exceptionally good, and the scenery, dresses, and appointments were admirable. The piece was rehearsed and produced by Mr. S. H. S. Austin, manager of the *Pinafore* provincial company, in whose hands the entire arrangements were entrusted, and a word of praise must be accorded to him for the way in which he worked to secure such a perfect performance. Sir William and Lady Armstrong were present, and the audience comprised about 250 of the *élite* of the neighbourhood, who were highly delighted with the evening's entertainment.

OUI DIRE.

ON the 14th inst. the Albert medal of the first class, awarded by the Queen to Mark Addy in recognition of his gallantry in saving life on the river Irwell (Addy has rescued no fewer than forty persons from drowning), was publicly handed to him by the Mayor of Salford, at the Town Hall. We are very glad that so high an honour has been conferred, for no distinction would be too great to mark Addy's conduct. With regard to his bravery being alluded to as, "gallantry," we think the fact of his saving forty lives, though it may point to his "suaviter in modo" principle, has more to do with "forty-ter in re."

"A VOICE FROM THE WOLDS," on the subject of pole-traps, writes to the editor of the *Yorkshire Post*, saying:—"I regret to say the pole-trap is much in use in the neighbourhood of Market Weighton and on the Wolds generally, but I feel sure that if the gentlemen on whose land the traps are used could be convinced of the cruelty practised they would order them to be abolished. The owl and the kestrel are the chief victims of the trap, and how anyone who has once seen a poor bird hanging alive with a broken leg (which invariably happens) for hours, in silent misery, can continue their use, passes my comprehension. It is almost impossible to convince a gamekeeper that owls and kestrels do more good than harm. I have tried to do so more than once, but found it a hopeless task. I once spoke to a gamekeeper whom I considered a very intelligent man of his class, and tried to impress on him the cruelty of the pole-trap, and that the owl and kestrel were harmless and useful birds. His reply was that 'he knew it, but there were some kestrel hawks flying about, and it looked so ugly to see them,' meaning, I suppose, that it would be a reflection on him if anything that is rightly or wrongly classed as winged vermin was allowed to exist. I hope this subject may be continued and reach the eyes of some of the landed

proprietors who permit the use of the pole-trap; a little more knowledge of the habits of birds, and a little more carefulness as to how animals of all kinds are killed, would, in my opinion, humanise us all, and stamp out the pole-trap."

It was "most musical, most melancholy," to hear Mrs. Osgood sing, "O Waly, Waly, up the Bank," at the Scotch Concert at

ACCORDING to *The Week*, the complaint of clergymen that their churches are badly attended is due to their own incapacity, and that journal, after pointing out some of the most glaring errors, says, "This being the time of year for sermons, we should be glad if some of the preachers would ponder over this discourse." We thoroughly agree with our contemporary, for we believe that clergymen of *The Week* description are far too numerous.

THE *Globe* notes the recent discovery of a large quantity of Bach's manuscripts. M. Robert Franz was always convinced that the Passion music and the Christmas Oratorios, so long lost to sight, were in existence somewhere or other; accordingly he began some time ago to institute a regular search, investigating one after another the houses in which the maestro had passed his time. It was not until after a long round of visits that he came to the abode of the Wittthums, where for some days he saw no hope of making any progress towards his desired object. He was walking disconsolately in the garden, when he observed that the young trees, where they were attached to their supports, were bound round with rolls of paper instead of straw, to prevent the bark being rubbed off. He examined the paper, and, to his intense delight, found it covered with that clear and well-known hand writing of Sebastian Bach. Hereupon, of course, ensued an interview with the gardener, and explanation, by means of which it appeared that there was a barn full of these old papers. No one had any use for them, and they had therefore been pressed

into this ignoble service. "To such vile uses" do manuscripts, as well as mortals, "come at last." M. Franz, of course, rushed headlong to the barn, where he found, truly enough, a number of large cases that had all contained larger or smaller supplies of paper covered with musical notes. Many of them had been despoiled, and their contents devoted to the protection of pear-tree bark, but one chest at least remained intact, in which were found no less than 120 sonatas for the violin, over the possession of which the musical world is now congratulating itself.



CRICKET IN AUSTRALIA.—THE CHAMPIONSHIP PRIZE MEDALS.

St. James's Hall, but it implied an arrangement which we cannot help condemning. Of course it is well known that it is all "up" with the Glasgow Bank, and that the losers should be "waly" is not to be wondered at, but we don't see the necessity for treating it as a mere song, especially at a Scotch concert.

THE fact that several provincial publicans have written to the *Sportsman* offering to put up Weston gratuitously when he passes through their respective towns shows that the public interest in this pedestrian feat is unabated.



A FIRST SHOT AT THE LAST HARE.

OUR CAPTIOUS CRITIC.

THE vexed question, "Was Hamlet mad?" will doubtless remain unanswered until the end of time. That he has been proved to be a howling lunatic by various Tragedians in various ways and at various times we—most of us—know to our cost.



"O, that this too too solid flesh
would melt —"

This has not been quite so much the work of Shakspeare as of the actors in question. I think I once saw a statement in a class-book that there existed 980 volumes written on the subject of Shakspeare's plays. About the same number of Tragedians have gone into the subject of Hamlet's insanity with varying



"F. A. M." The gay and festive Commentator

success, from the simple form of drivelling idiocy up to the more impressive illustrations of roaring lunacy, so that it would be useless to go through a list of them in the brief space at my disposal. Apart from that, I do not think you would be edified, and I ever have, dear reader, thy comfort as my first consideration

(presents, invitations, or money may be sent under cover to the office). The charwoman, architect, painter, and other worthy people have been hard at work on the Lyceum Theatre, and have very creditably made the place worthy of the precious gem that it contains. Mr. Irving has undertaken the management of a house unusually complete and handsome in every respect. Even the dressing-rooms, I believe (I speak from hearsay), are fitted with unaccustomed comfort. There is nothing connected with London theatres so pitifully disgraceful—speaking of them generally—as the dressing-rooms offered to artists. Ladies and gentlemen of high position in their profession are huddled into rooms scarcely fit for the accommodation of sheep and goats. However, as they seem to put up with it and murmur not, I suppose I need waste no breath in talking about it. As far as the front of the Lyceum is concerned, with exception of the overcrowding, the comfort of the public is complete. Even in the matter of distributing programmes, instead of being harrassed by a great lumbering lout, who looks at you with a menacing scowl, as much as to say, "I know that all fees are abolished, but just you refuse to tip me something and see what I'll do for you first time I meet you out!" Mr. Irving has a regiment of gentlemanly little boys in Eton jackets and snowy collars, to attend to the literary wants of the audience with admirable politeness. A very neat edition of the tragedy of *Hamlet* may be obtained from one of these youths for the barely remunerative price of one shilling; it contains a highly entertaining dissertation in the form of a preface, by the gay and festive Frank Marshall. I have attempted, as far as is possible, to give a rapid sketch of this worthy, but when in a theatre he flits about from seat to seat with such rapidity that it is difficult to find him in one place for a sufficiently long space of time to do him jus-



The Flesh melted

tice. Never will I forget him on the first night of production of that Practical Joke by Hatton and Albery—"No. 20." He turned up in about a dozen different seats in about as many minutes with almost the effect of George Conquest, as the Demon Butterfly, or something else—with his ingenious traps and wires at the Grecian Theatre! Such activity on the stage would be remarkably effective, and there seems no reason why in his next play Mr. Marshall should not write himself in a part in which he can flutter for the public benefit. Of Mr. Irving's Hamlet much has been said and written; it is now as far as comment is concerned a stale subject. Some time ago, when he first essayed the character which would seem to be the chief cornerstone in the building of a successful Tragic actor's fame, it was the popular thing to cry him down. Other Hamlets especially entertained the poorest possible opinion of the gentleman who unbottles the essence of the great Williams as with a corkscrew, and dispenses it to occupants of stalls and boxes, to say nothing of pit and gallery, who thirst for what many maintain is the only vintage. By contrast with such very crude and sour stuff, as for example the Bandmann tap, Mr. Irving's essence is, to say the least of it, sound and wholesome. And as regards Hamlet, I differ from the opinion of those critics who assert that no one can fail in the part. The above-named German tragedy-merchant knows to the contrary, or if he do not those who have seen him do. The ponderous presentation of the Prince by Signor Salvini too was chiefly notable for the agile manner in which he retired when the ghost came on at a moment when Hamlet was not looking. With ultra-Marshallian agility, the Italian was right up at the back of the stage before you had time to wink, and from an acrobatic point of view the feat was astonishing.

Miss Ellen Terry has captivated the town by her tenderly

angular Ophelia but the angles are far from ungraceful, and her father, admirably presented by that clever veteran, Mr. Chippendale (for whose benefit on the 25th (?) I hope the house will be



crowded) has reason to be proud of his daughter, if not particularly of his son, who is somewhat of the hobbledehoy.

Mr. Kyrle Bellew is bright and effective as Osric. As for Mr.



Hamlet and Ophelia
about to Osculate

Forrester and Mr. Swinbourne, with the trifling mistake that they are in the wrong characters—he who plays the King should play Horatio, and he who plays Horatio should play the King—are of course perfectly satisfactory.

"THE QUEEN OF HEARTS."

The Queen of Hearts, according to Mr. Thomas and Miss Harriet Young, who have made operatic capital of her adventure, was a very charming young lady, who lost none of her charm at Kingston on Saturday night in the hands of Miss José Sherrington. We will not spoil the story of the little operetta, which ought to be more widely known, by telling how Miss Laura Lindon got rid of two unwelcome lovers, and kept her hand free for the next performance. But we wish there were more of this sort of work to be had. The true spirit of English opera, as of French, lies, to our mind, in musical comedy, as it sparkles in Auber or shines with more or less brilliance in his joyous satelites. English grand opera is too often a weariness of the flesh, and English burlesque-opera an insult to the intelligence. Miss Young is a disciple of the true comic opera school, and knowing the stage as well as the piano, gives us music which is dramatic as well as musical. The soprano's first air, "Pretty flowers," and the card-trio at the end, "Shuffle 'em, shuffle 'em," are gems in their way. We would not add to the troubles of theatrical managers by suggesting roads to fortune; but if they were to return to the true comic opera *The Queen of Hearts* deserves a place in the repertory. Mr. Thomas has given Miss Young an excellent little "book," and she has paid him in kind. On Saturday night at Kingston, where the enterprise of Mrs. Launitz Tipping, a resident, herself well known to the musical world, had found a stage for the little opera (first produced at Brighton), the authors were fortunate in their actors. Mr. Cobham and Mr. Thorndike gave both dialogue and music with spirit and taste,

and helped to establish the reign of their Queen of Hearts in all the hearts there. Miss Sherrington is an excellent actress; and how, in the dearth of vocalists who can act at all, she can rest content with concert laurels we cannot say. If we may venture to say so, she is throwing a great gift away. Years ago her sister, Madame Lemmens, stepped from the concert-room on to the stage and took her audiences by surprise. So might the younger artist.

STUD NEWS.

HIGH GINGFIELD, Richmond, Yorkshire.—On January 16th, Irene, by King Tom, a bay filly by Glenlyon; 17th, Dewdrop (dam of Falmouth), a bay colt by Wild Dayrell II.; both mares will be put to him again (Wild Dayrell II.); February 4th, Mr. Hope's Faith, by Mildew (dam by Esedarius), by Gladiator, a colt by Glenlyon. Arrived: Miss Harriott, by Kettledrum out of The Doe, in foal to Glenlyon; Alexandra, in foal to Wild Dayrell II.

MOORLANDS STUD FARM, York.—On January 12th, Mr. G. S. Thompson's Produce, by Thornaby (dam of Luette), a bay filly by Speculum, to whom has arrived Mr. Sterling Crawford's Pilgrimage, by The Earl or Palmer (winner of the One Thousand and Two Thousand Guineas), maiden; Marie Stuart, by Scottish Chief (winner of the Oaks and St. Leger), in foal to Craig Millar; and his Frulein, by Nutbourne, in foal to Mortemer; Mr. T. E. Walker's Solitude, by Blair Athol out of Hermit's dam, in foal to Pero Gomez; Retice, by Vespasian (also out of Hermit's dam), in foal to Jock of Oran, and The Orphan, by Newminster, barren; Mr. Thompson's Remembrance, by Wild Huntsman (dam of Telescope, Memoria, &c.), in foal to Speculum; Hesperithusa, by Hesperus (dam of Hesper and Hesperia), also in foal to Speculum, and Progress, by Teagress, by Thormanby (dam of Advance, Expectation, &c.), barren. Camballo has arrived here for the season; 24th, Mr. J. S. Thompson's Cornu, by Trumpeter, a bay filly by Lord Lyon; 25th, Mr. Barlow's Hesperia, by Cape Flyaway (dam of Knighthood), a brown colt by Knight of the Garter,

and will be put to King Lud; 28th, Mr. Thompson's Remembrance, by Wild Huntsman (dam of Telescope), a bay filly by Speculum; 29th, Mr. Crowther Harrison's Bathilde, by Stockwell (dam of Tomahawk and Zanon), brown colt by Rosicrucian, and will be put to Speculum. Latest arrivals to Speculum: Lord Rosebery's Lady Caroline, by Orlando (dam of Controversy), barren; and his lordship's Kingcup, by Macaroni, maiden; and Mr. G. S. Thompson's Birthright, by Ben Webster out of Rosebery's dam, in foal to Speculum. To Camballo: Mr. Taylor Sharpe's Queen Pee, by King Tom (sister to Marsworth), in foal to Merry Sunshine; and Mr. Tritton's Palmetta, by Beadsman, in foal to Vespasian.

BONEHILL PADDOCKS, Tamworth.—On January 17, Young Lady, a bay filly by Cathedral; 25, Sota de Roma (dam by Pero Gomez) a bay filly by King of the Forest; both mares will be put to Childeric, who has arrived at Bonehill for the season.

THE STUD COMPANY (Limited), Cobham, Surrey.—On January 30th, the Stud Company's Jocosia colt by Mortemer, and will be put to Wild Oats; Mr. W. S. Cartwright's mare by Lord Clifden—Princess of Wales, a filly by Blue Gown, and will be put to him again; 31st, the Stud Company's Vergiss-mein-nicht (dam of Ladylove), a filly by Blair Athol, and will be put to him again; February 3rd, Lord Cawdor's Bonita, a filly by Dutch Skater and will be put to Wild Oats; 4th, the Stud Company's Curacoa (dam of Martinique) a colt by Blue Gown, and will be put to Wild Oats; 5th, the Stud Company's Albatross, a colt by Blair Athol, and will be put to him again.

BEENHAM HOUSE STUD FARM, near Reading.—On January 30th, Mr. H. Waring's Moss Rose, a chestnut filly by King of the Forest, and will be put to him again; February 2nd, Mr. J. Cookson's Metheglin, a bay filly by Salvador, and will be put to King of the Forest; 3rd, Mr. H. Waring's Narino, a bay colt by King of the Forest, and will be put to him again; 5th, Mr. H. Waring's Sister to Strafford, a bay colt by Orest, and will be put to Cymbal.

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PAUL JONES, by Buccaneer out of Queen of the Gipsies, by Chanticleer, her dam, Rambling Katie, by Melbourne out of Phyrne, by Touchstone, at 15s each.

Foaling mares, 25s. per week; barren mares, 18s. per week. Apply to Stud Groom, as above.

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Apply to Mr. Taylor Sharpe.

At the Glasgow Stud Farm, near Enfield, Middlesex.

CLANRONALD, by Blair Athol, out of Isilia, by Newminster, will serve a limited number of mares at 10s each. Foaling Mares at 25s., and Barren Mares at 20s. per week. Groom's fee, 1 guinea. All expenses to be paid before the mare is removed.

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There is also a line of railway under construction through the heart of the property, which will be opened in the course of the present year, and will give all parts of the estate connexion with Dunedin. The opening of this railway will undoubtedly tend very greatly to enhance the value of the property. A plan of the estate, and also a key plan, showing its situation in the province of Otago and Southland, is issued with the detailed prospectus.

The different properties consist of 167,769 acres of freehold land in one block, of which 16,823 acres are under cultivation in grain crops, English grasses, and clovers, and the whole fenced in. There are besides 141,675 acres of leasehold lands, held partly under the Crown and partly under trustees for educational reserves, who are restricted from selling.

With the estate has been purchased the stock thereon, of 167,000 sheep, 82 draught and saddle horses, and 112 head of cattle, with the agricultural implements, plant, steam engines, &c., as also the suitable and substantial residences, buildings, wool sheds, sheep yards, shepherds' houses, and saw mills.

The purchase takes effect as from the 1st November, 1878, so that the Company will have the benefit of the present year's dropping of lambs, and of the clip of wool and grain crops soon to be realised. The shareholders will thus be secure of regular dividends from the date of the allotment of shares.

The price agreed upon is £1,070,000, of which the vendors take £350,000 in fully paid-up shares of the Company, forming no part of the present issue, and the balance payable thus:—£40,000 at once, £100,000 on 31st March, 1879; £110,000 on 1st August, 1879; £200,000 on 1st February, 1880; and £270,000 on the 9th December, 1880.

The first three instalments will carry interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, and the last at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum. As to the latter, however, the interest will only be payable out of the surplus profits of the Company in each year, after setting aside sufficient to pay a dividend for that year at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum on the paid-up capital, and without any claim in case of deficiency on future profits. The Company have the option of postponing the payment of any instalment, or any part thereof (except the last), for not exceeding two years. Any deferred instalments, however, are to carry interest at the rate of 6 per cent. The vendors' shares, until after the 9th December, 1883, will only be transferable in the colony.

This price is £6 7s. 6d. per acre for the freehold lands, everything else being given in. Each £20 share will therefore be represented by upwards of three acres of freehold land, and three sheep, and about three acres of leasehold land, besides an interest in the buildings, working plant, improvements, &c.

Messrs. Horace Bastings, and Walter H. Pearson, Government Commissioners for the Classification of Lands in Otago and Southland respectively, have reported on the various properties and made valuations which are of a highly satisfactory nature.

There are a great number of young men in this country who desire to acquire knowledge of the management of agricultural and pastoral properties, with a view to afterwards securing lands in the colony.

It is proposed to receive every year a certain number of these as cadets upon the estate, to learn sheep, cattle, and horse breeding, farming, and agriculture. Cadets will require to have received a good education. On entering the Company's service a premium will be required from each cadet, but after a short period of satisfactory service upon the estate a salary will be paid him, which will be increased in proportion to his general merits. Suitable accommodation and board will be provided. Cadets will be required to be steady and active, to be ready to work early and late. To those who desire to learn the occupation of stock-farming and agriculture thoroughly no better opportunity could present itself.

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The preliminary expenses up to and including the allotment of shares will be borne by the agents of the vendors.

Copies of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and all other documents may be seen at the offices of the Solicitors.

The prospectus in full, with copy of the report and valuations and map of the estates, and all necessary information, and forms of applications for shares and debentures, can be obtained on application, by letter or personally, to the Secretary, 110, Cannon-street, E.C.

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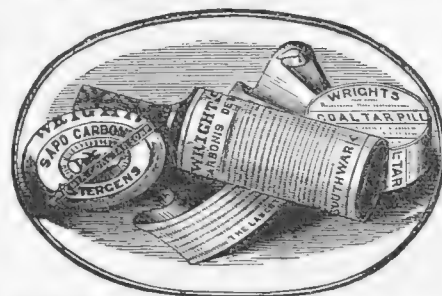
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For Making delicious Custards without eggs in less time and at half the price. Unequalled for the purposes intended. Will give the utmost satisfaction if the instructions given are implicitly followed. The proprietors entertain the greatest confidence in the article, and can recommend it to housekeepers generally as a useful agent in the preparation of a good custard. Give it a trial.

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SALES BY AUCTION, &c.

ROMFORD.—By order of the Devises of Col. Graves, deceased.—Two charming Freehold Properties, Leashold Cottages, and about 50 acres of valuable Freehold Building or Accommodation Land about ten minutes' walk from the town and railway station.

MESSRS. DEBENHAM, TEWSON, and FARMER will SELL at the Mart, on TUESDAY, Feb. 18, at TWO o'clock, in Eight Lots: Lot 1. The very desirable Freehold Residential Property, THE SHUBBERY, situate on the London-road, and comprising a small residence, with stabling, outbuildings, attractive grounds, and two paddocks, in all about 4a. 1r. 18p., with possession.

Lot 2. The attractive Freehold Property, BURY HOUSE, comprising a substantially built residence, with stabling, outbuildings, garden, &c., in all about 1½ acres. Let on lease at a ground rent of £11 for sixty-one years from June, 1838, at the expiration of which term the purchaser will be entitled to the rack rent, estimated at £80.

Lots 3 and 4. Two valuable inclosures of FREEHOLD BUILDING or ACCOMMODATION LAND, situate adjoining the preceding lots, possessing long frontages to the London-road, and containing about 1½ acres. Leased for about seven years, at the inadequate rent of £12 per annum.

Lot 5. A Productive ORCHARD (with a small Cottage), containing about 1 acre, and possessing a long frontage to the London-road, valuable for building purposes. Leased for about seven years, at the inadequate rent of £12 per annum.

Lot 6. Two large inclosures of FREEHOLD BUILDING and ACCOMMODATION LAND, containing about 36 acres, situate on the road from Romford to Dagenham, to which it has a long frontage. Leased to Messrs. J. and P. Seabrook for about eleven years, at £135.

Lot 7. A small plot of FREEHOLD LAND adjoining Lot 6.

Lot 8. Two long LEASEHOLD COTTAGES, let at £10 per annum each.

Particulars, with plan, of Messrs. Surridge, Hunt, and Williams, Solicitors, 42, Lombard-street, and Romford; of P. M. Hawey, Esq., Solicitor, 6, Old Jewry; and of the Auctioneers, 80, Cheapside.

NORWAY.—Highly attractive small Fishing and Shooting Estate, on the high sea between Tromsø and Hammerfest, about sixty miles north of the former town, and near properties of the Duke of Roxburghe and other noblemen.

MESSRS. SURRIDGE & SON are directed by the devisees under the will of the late Thomas George Graham White, Esq., to SELL by PUBLIC AUCTION, at the Mart, Tokenhouse-yard, London, at the end of FEBRUARY Next, the ISLAND OF LOPPEN, Norway, with the Residence and Offices thereon, and all the rights and privileges appurtenant thereto. The estate offers excellent salmon and other fishing in abundance, and the shooting includes ptarmigan, ryer, and waterfowl in variety. Grazing for cattle is appurtenant to possession. Steamers pass twice a week up and twice a week down regularly, besides which other steamers pass frequently. The adjacent island of Loppelvaen has also been occupied for sporting purposes by the late owner, at a nominal annual payment or rental.

Further particulars and conditions of sale may be had of Messrs. Wade and Knocker, Solicitors, Dunmow, Essex; of Messrs. Harris and Morton, Solicitors, Halstead, Essex; of Messrs. Howard, Inglis, and Keeling, Solicitors, Colchester, Essex; of Messrs. Western and Sons, Solicitors, 35, Essex-street, Strand, London; of J. S. Barnes, Esq., Colchester, Essex; and of the Auctioneers, at their Offices, Kelvedon and Coggeshall, Essex.

HUNTING QUARTERS.—ROYAL GEORGE HOTEL, RUGBY, one of the best houses in the Midlands, within easy reach of the Pytchley, Atherstone, North and South Warwickshire, Mr. Talley's, the Quorn, and the Duke of Grafton's Hounds. Under two hours from Euston. Posting in all its branches. Cabs meet most trains. Good cheer and wines at moderate prices. Night Porter. Tariff. L. Hards, Proprietor.

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ESHER.—FURNISHED HOUSE

(The Laurels) to be LET, 15 miles from town, near station; ten rooms; over-looking the Common, south aspect, sandy soil, nice garden; good water and drainage.—For terms apply to Mr. C. Ford.

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A SLIGHT ADDITION OF THE EXTRACT GIVES GREAT STRENGTH AND FLAVOUR TO SOUPS, MADE DISHES, AND SAUCES AND EFFECTS GREAT ECONOMY.

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In use in most households throughout the Kingdom.

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All sufferers from the above complaints, either of recent or long standing, are advised to use

BLAIR'S GOUT AND RHEUMATIC PILLS.

They require no restraint of diet or confinement during their use, and are certain to prevent the disease attacking any vital part.

Sold by all Chemists, at 1s. 12d. and 2s. 9d. per box.

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CLARKE'S WORLD-FAMED BLOOD MIXTURE is warranted to cleanse the blood from all impurities, from whatever cause arising. For Scrofula, Scurvy, Skin and Blood Diseases, its effects are marvellous. In bottles, 2s. 6d. each, and in cases (containing six times the quantity) 11s. each, of all Chemists. Sent to any address, for 30 or 12 stamps, by the Proprietor, F. J. CLARKE, Chemist, Apothecaries' Hall, Lincoln.

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BUFFET (open from 10 a.m. till midnight), for Light Refreshment Luncheons served from 12 till 3 o'clock.

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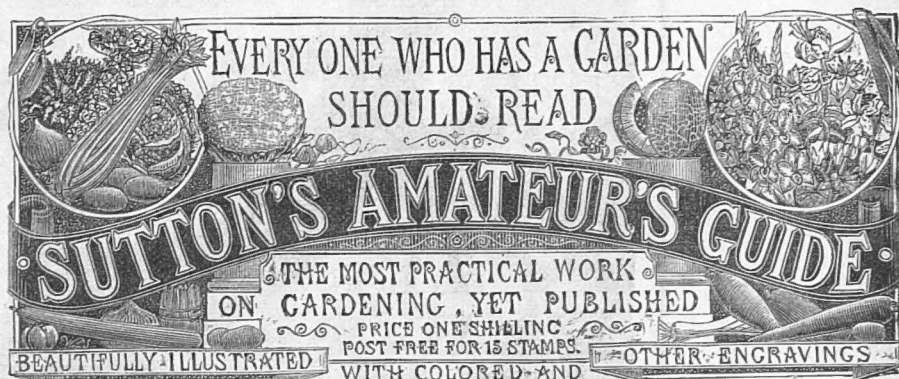
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LADIES of DELICATE COMPLEXION who suffer from exposure to cold winds and damp atmosphere, will find soothing relief in the application of

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STEEL PENS.

Sold by all stationers throughout the world.



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JEOPARDY of LIFE.

THE GREAT DANGER of DELAY.

YOU can change the trickling stream, but not the raging torrent.

WHAT EVERYBODY SHOULD READ.—How

important it is to every individual to have at hand some simple, effective, and palatable remedy, such as ENO'S FRUIT SALT, to check disease at the onset! For this is the time. With very little trouble you can change the course of the trickling mountain stream, but not the rolling river. It will defy all your tiny efforts. I feel I cannot sufficiently impress this important information upon all householders, or ship captains, or Europeans generally, who are visiting or residing in any hot or foreign climate. Whenever a change is contemplated, likely to disturb the condition of health, let ENO'S FRUIT SALT be your companion, for, under any circumstances, its use is beneficial, and never can do harm. When you feel out of sorts, yet unable to say why, frequently without any warning you are suddenly seized with lassitude, disinclination for bodily or mental exertion, loss of appetite, sickness, pain in the forehead, dull aching of back and limbs, coldness of the surface, and often shivering, &c., then your whole body is out of order, the spirit of danger has been kindled, but you do not know where it may end; it is a real necessity to have a simple remedy at hand, that will always answer the very best end, with a positive assurance of doing good in every case, and in no case any harm. The pilot can so steer and direct as to bring the ship into safety, but he cannot quell the raging storm. The common idea when not feeling well is—I will wait and see; perhaps I shall be better to-morrow; whereas, had a supply of ENO'S FRUIT SALT been at hand, and use made of it at the onset, all calamitous results might have been avoided. What dashes to the earth so many hopes, breaks so many sweet alliances, blasts so many auspicious enterprises as untimely death? It is not exaggeration, but simple fact, when I state that any little pecuniary benefit I may derive from the sale of this preparation is absolutely nothing as compared with the immense benefit by those who use it.—J. C. ENO.

ENO'S FRUIT SALT.—"After suffering for nearly two and a half years from severe headache and disordered stomach, and after trying almost everything, and spending much money without finding any benefit, I was recommended by a friend to try ENO'S FRUIT SALT, and before I had finished one bottle I found it doing me a great deal of good, and now I am restored to my usual health; and others I know that have tried it have not enjoyed such good health for years.—Yours most truly, Robert Humphreys. Post-office, Barrasford."

ENO'S FRUIT SALT.—"A gentleman called in yesterday. He is a constant sufferer from chronic dyspepsia, and has taken all sorts of mineral waters. I recommended him to give my FRUIT SALT a trial, which he did, and received great benefit. He says he never knew what it was to be without pain until he tried your Fruit Salt, and for the future shall never be without it in the house.—M. Beral, 14, Rue de la Paix, Paris."

ENO'S FRUIT SALT.

FROM the Rev. Dr. HURST, Vicar of Collierley:—"I have used your FRUIT SALT for many years, and have verified your statements. The thanks of the public are due to you for your unceasing efforts to relieve suffering humanity. Long may you live to be a blessing to the world."

CAUTION.—Examine each bottle, and see the capsule is marked "ENO'S FRUIT SALT." Without, you have been imposed on by a worthless imitation. Sold by all Chemists. Price 2s. 6d. and 4s. 6d.

PREPARED by J. C. ENO'S PATENT, at ENO'S FRUIT SALT WORKS, HATCHAM, LONDON, S.E.

A WEEK WITH THE GRAYLING.

BY THE RIVERSIDE STROLLER.

THOUGH a veritable cockney, born within sound of Bow Bells, nevertheless I inherit my ancestors native love for fresh air, wood-clad hills, and stream-divided valleys, coming as I do of an old Shropshire stock, that bears the same name as the primitive parish in which the family homestead has been located for generations past. This relationship leads to an annual invitation in the autumn, which I greedily accept, as it takes me into the neighbourhood of the most typical grayling stream England can boast of, a stream that runs through picturesque valleys of silurian and Devonian limestone.

Not only graceful grayling, but lusty trout abound in this stream, and afford such sport as the London-bound angler cannot meet with in a day's march around the metropolis. Gray-

ling delight in streams of moderate temperature, which are not rapid and shallow, such as trout favour, nor in deep pools or lakes, such as chub and charr frequent. They require a combination of stream and pool, a deep still pool for rest, a rapid stream above, a gradually declining shallow below, with a bottom where marl or loam is mixed with gravel. The grayling season commences in August, and should end in December, as this fish begins to get heavy in spawn towards the beginning of the new year.

There are three very distinct sizes of this fish—first, "the pink," probably so called from its being comparable in bulk to the minnow, which also bears that name in many parts of the county. At the pink stage neither spots nor lateral lines are observable. When a weight of $\frac{1}{2}$ lb has been attained they are locally known as "shote," or "skett;" at this stage the spots appear, but not the well-marked longitudinal lines which

characterise the full-grown, or adult, "grayling" of $\frac{1}{2}$ lb in weight. No sportsman would bag a fish under ten inches in length.

I regard the grayling as a bold biter; for you may rise this fish many times in succession, in fact till it has formed quite a strong attachment to your tackle—not so with Mr. Trout.

It was towards the end of last August I again found myself near the banks of this stream, and up betimes to reconnoitre the state of the water, the lay of the fish, and the flies on the wing. This I always make a practice of doing before I take rod in hand, as it gives one many hints that may save time and vexation when one's stay beside a stream must be of limited extent. Especially does this practice apply to the hints that may be gained as to the proper selection of flies, according as the season has been early or late, and the manner in which any place has been affected by local atmospheric influences. A London fly-fisher is



A LIKELY PLACE FOR WOODCOCK.

often laughed at by the local pot-hunters; for by such crude means as gentle-fishing, with a stiff home-made rod and float, or what is known as "sinking and drawing" with an artificial grasshopper, the largest fish are brought to bank. If Polonius's cloud was "very like a whale," the Shropshire artificial is "very like a grasshopper." It consists of a No. 11 hook, with a short shank, covered with an elongated pear-shaped lead about three quarters of an inch in length, dressed with light green and yellow silk, in alternating bands. The point of the hook being baited with a bunch of lively gentles, "the grasshopper" allowed to sink till it touches the bottom of the pool; it is then steadily drawn up about twelve or eighteen inches, and again allowed to sink, and so on till a bite is felt, then the strike is given, and a tight line maintained till the fish is landed—for it must be understood the grayling is not such a fierce fighter as a trout, but has

more of the dogged, tail-backward haul of the eel. It is seldom that a hooked grayling springs out of the water. For all this a grayling requires "playing"—*more suo*. "Sinking and drawing" is not in my line, but equipped in thigh boots and armed with a fly rod, I prefer wading under bushes or where I can command a deep, dead part of the stream, and there ply the finest gut collar, terminating in an orange tag-tail, red ant, or fern-fly; if late in the season, what is locally known as the seg-fly. One of these, or two at the most, as "stretcher and dropper," I throw as light as gossamer, and then let the line sink some eight or ten inches. This is the peculiarity, some call it the secret, of fly-fishing for grayling. In the ordinary way, as for trout, you may take a considerable number of "skett," but to get hold of grayling over a pound you must let the flies sink in the parts of the stream I have indicated, and strange indeed it will

be if you do not get—not a "rise" in the ordinary acceptance of the term, but a "curl" in the water, followed by a steady, persistent tug, which tells of a worthy prize secured. By this means I have filled my creel (not a small one) with the pick of the fish, while the uninitiated, using the same flies, have not secured a single adult grayling. Another hint: when you find grayling are satisfied with any given fly, do not change it, for you will find them "staunch to the colours." At times, though the stream swarms with fish, they will not even look at the tempter. As for skett grayling, at times an angler could land as many as his creel would hold, and more, a hundred to a single rod in a day's fishing not being out of the way. During my week's jaunt I booked 115 grayling, ranging from half a pound to a pound, a few being over that weight. Skett and trout I take no account of in the present reckoning.